



Attorney Docket No. 1294/US/2  
Express Mail Label No. EV 622973937 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Applicant	: Thomas et al.	
Appln. No.	: 10/658,051	Confirmation No: 1940
Filed	: September 9, 2003	Group Art Unit: 3752
Title	: SHOWER HEAD ASSEMBLY	Examiner: Hogan, James Sean

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(b)(4) and 1.98  
and STATEMENT OF RELATEDNESS UNDER M.P.E.P. § 2001.06(b)**

MAIL STOP RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner is requested to consider the references noted on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a during examination of the above-identified patent application. These references are submitted for the Examiner's consideration and are submitted pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In submitting these references, no representation is made or implied that the references are or are not material to the examination of the application. The Examiner is encouraged to make his or her own determination of materiality. Pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Consolidated Patent Rules of February 1, 2005, waiver of the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), only copies of the foreign references and non-patent literature documents are provided. Copies of the U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication references are not provided, unless required by the Office.

English abstracts of the following foreign patents could not be obtained. In order to satisfy the requirement of a concise explanation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), the following descriptions are provided:

French Patent No. FR873808 discloses a shower head.

French Patent No. FR1039750 discloses a shower head.

Italian Patent No. IT563459 discloses a fluid structure having a ball and socket joint at a first end and a connector having a series of circular or semicircular collars at a second end. The ball joint is fluidly connected to an interior of the socket element.

In satisfaction of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and as required by M.P.E.P. § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is requested to consider the following applications commonly owned by the Assignee of the present application and that may include subject matter similar to that of the present application:

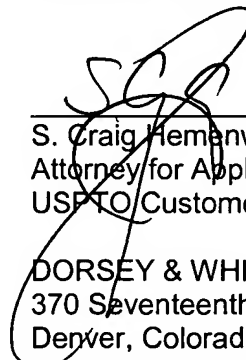
- (1) U.S. patent application no. 09/204,423, filed December 2, 1998, now abandoned;
- (2) U.S. patent application no. 29/215,264, filed October 15, 2004, pending;
- (3) U.S. patent application no. 29/212,512 filed September 1, 2004, pending; and
- (4) U.S. patent application no. 29/216,507, filed November 3, 2004, pending.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the first Office action, concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4), no fees are due with respect to this filing. However, should any such fees or petitions be required, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 as necessary.

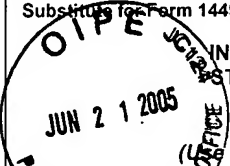
If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: 21 June 2005

Respectfully submitted,

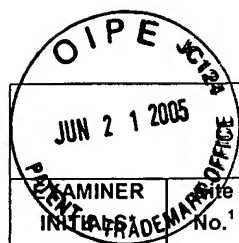
  
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PTO/SB/08a (08-03) U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Substitutes for Form 1449A/PTO  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)	APPLICATION NO.: 10/658,051	FILING DATE: September 9, 2003
	APPLICANT: Thomas et al.	ART UNIT: 3752
	EXAMINER NAME: Hogan, James Sean	ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 1294/US/2

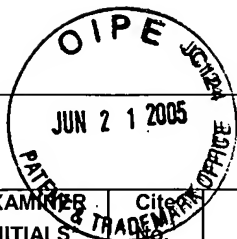
### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	Name of Patentee of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
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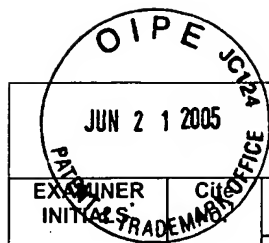
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		Number – Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
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		Country Code <sup>3</sup> – Number <sup>4</sup> – Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
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<sup>1</sup> communication to applicant.

<sup>2</sup> Applicant's unique citation number (optional). <sup>3</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>4</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>6</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>7</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>8</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



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## OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>2</sup>	Include name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>3</sup>

EXAMINER

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